expressed while declining to sign the Comprehensive T^si Eana Treaty (CTBT) that it is un^-Hable preventing tl>e non-weapon countries fr*om* conducting nuclear tests while leaving it open to nacllear we-V B itatc$_s$ 10 conduct the^i; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto by way i:f securing support 'o their vii-ws 6«i stand on CTI1T from other countries and, securing a just and fair perspective in relation to nuewar weapons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERWAN1): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In a press statement on July 5, 1997, Government took note of the 'sub-critical" test csnducted by the Uni'ed States on luly 2, 1997 and expre scd concern that the subcntlcjl nuclear test has been justified "as an activity permitted under the CTBT. India has be;n consistently pointing out in both bilateral and international for$_a$ that the-CTBT in its present form contains loopholes Mid without bejng pia.ed in the context of a phased programme for global nuclear dis-armament Verves only a discriminuury on-p.oliferation intent ratier than the-urgent soal of global nuclear disarmament. India's stand on the CTBT enjoys support from non-aligned countries et well $_M$ international non-goveiamental organisations and the academic community. India believes that a nuclear weap.m-free world will enhance our national security as well as global security.

Makins Missiles with N warheads by Pakistan

14PI. SHRI SliSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRiMATI VEEN A VI Rma:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(») whether Government's attention baa aeeo dctwa to the report captioneJ "Pak making N.wa,heads" which ap peared in the Pioneer, dated the Juiy, 1997;

(b) if so, whether Government havt since confirmed the re-port? that Pakhtat is making missile with nuclear warhead with Chinese assistant, at its factor) at Fateh Ganj; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERWANI): (a) Yes, Str.

(b) and (c) Government are amjn of credible report's about Chinese a-sis-tan.e in Pakjstan'$_s$ mi: He programme. Government have made it clear tM these- developments pose a threat to Tndin's security End are not conducive !• the maintenaace of peace and stabilitj in the region. Government have been tat-in-- nc;e°. ry step-, to safegr.a'd the security and national in'c est and wl continue t_0 do so in kecking with '& assessment of developments pei'tain'ng to India's 'security environment.

Deployment of M 11 Misseils by pakistan

I. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to stale:

fa) whether Government have vanned the reports that Pakistan has deployed ill M-II missiles near India« border; and

fh if so, the defensive measure! tpVen by India to mee: this threat?

THP MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF F\TFRNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIM.VT KVMLA SINHAV. (») and (b) Gover-.m-nt are aware of a* reports in this regard. The acquisi tion of mi-vies *mi* rc'ajc.l technologic by Pakistan $_{»ous}j_V$ $_{m0}$ai-tared nnd a^css^d bjr Government. Our acquisition of M-H id Keen conveyed'the conrerncd Govcrnin remains fully committed to taking

ncceiSary ste^s to sa'cjuard India's security and na!ional interest.

Area Occupied by China

2493. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the PI be pleased *o state:

(a) the total area of Indb, jn square kilometres, illegally occupied by China, State-wise and Sector.wise;

(b) whether Minsar village of Lad-d ;kh in Jammu anj Kashmir, wi!h sizeable popu'alion, is situated well inside Western Tibet, on the Northern or North-we | . bo'.y i. Parvat;

(c) Jf so, whether Government have raised the issue of Minsar village with thwr Oums- coin: mar-s in thfir several rounds of ta'ks held in the past; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY (EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRi SALEEM IQBAL SHERWANI): (a) The area under occupation by China in Jammu & Kashmir is approximately 38,000 sq. kms. In addition, under the so-called Sino-Pakistan boundary agree, men:' of 1953, Pakistan illegally ceded approximate] | kms. of Indian territory in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir to China.

fb) and ic~i During the India-China Officials level la'ks on the Boundary ioa in I960. Minsar vilbec «fl referred to by the two sides. The loca tion of tti' en described matery 200 kms. from I ikh and on the route to Maataro-var.

(d) Docs no: arise.

Arranjcmcnts for Ind'sn Community in llnr.g Ronff

2494. SHRIMATI URMILABENCHIMAN BHAI PATEL:Will the PRIME MINISTER he pleased to state**:**

la) »he"her Government have asses-- Indian population, particularly 'ti community in Hong Kong;

(b) whether there is restlessness on the part of Indian community there, after handing over of Hong Kong lo Chinese Government on 1st July, 1997; and

(c) jf so, what arrangements Govern-ment bave made for lhe Indian commu-nity, in consultation with the Chinese Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINiSim OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERWANI): According to the information available with lhe Government, Ihere are appro-Indian origin resident in Hong Kong, of which aoout 22,000 are Indian passport hol-ders; the remaining hold British or third country documents. According to thL, information available with thj Con- suiate General of India, Hong Kong, ihe.e arc 'ely 1000 pet Gujaraii crigjn in Hong Km.; of whom about 600 are permanent residents.

(b) and (c) Government ha» not come acros reports of any par:icular sense of restlessness in the Indian community in Hong Kort; ;o!]owing the resumption of sovereignly by China July 1, 1997.

The Chinese and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) authorities have expressed appreciation of tho contribution o' ihc InJi; n .immunity to Hong Kong's economic development and its fodal and cultural life. The ChVf rxeoutiwj Officer off "•» HKSxR. Mr Tung Cbee-Hwa. has assured Government that the Indian community would coa!inue to he welcoaae in Hong Koruj

Sino-Indian Protasts against US vjodation of CTBT

2495. SHRI MATI VEENA VERMA

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAM-BHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be plowed to slat*:

(a) whether Ormwrnment's »tt«niicw was drawn to the Chinese protect aaio*****